

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

City Arts Commission

MINUTES

Central Library - Conference Room
Thursday, March 8, 2012 – 5:00pm

Meeting Called to Order
Minutes Recorded by Commissioner Goldberg, Secretary

ROLL CALL:

Present: Robyn Grant, Chair, Carole Boller, Rita Goldberg, Secretary, Arlene Greer, Gilbert Lasky, Robert Smith, Vice Chair, Christopher Trela

Staff: Nancy Gardner, Mayor; Cynthia Cowell, Library Services Director

Absent: Jana Barbier, Cultural Arts Coordinator

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public Comments; Guest Reporter from Daily Pilot – Brittney Barnes introduced herself and noted she came to cover Sky Divers Sculpture.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes from two prior meetings (January 12 and February 9, 2012) were approved (Motion to approve by Commissioner Boller and seconded by Commissioner Greer.)

CURRENT BUSINESS

Items for Review and Possible Action:

Concerts in the Parks – Cultural Arts Activities – Commissioner Goldberg suggested rock or British band instead of Jazz since Mandel is Jazzy. Everyone agreed. Commissioner Goldberg offered to notify Jana Barbier by email.

Review Budget – Commissioner Lasky noted that he reviewed the budget but had to meet with Jana to go over it because some things weren't adding up and he needed clarification.

Art in Public Spaces - Commissioner Smith reported on action to not accept Sky Divers public sculpture from The Irvine Company. A letter that had been constructed explaining the decision was passed around. Commissioner Smith elaborated – "One of our policies (I-11) requires the city accepts art that is satisfactory condition. The cost of \$150,000 needed for restoration is expensive." He expressed concern regarding the liability of accepting artwork that requires indefinite storage. "As gracious as it was of The Irvine Company to offer this artwork, the recommendation is to decline the offer."

Commissioner Trela made a motion to rescind our prior vote to accept this artwork and to refuse the artwork. Commissioner Lasky seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Fine Arts Committee – Commissioner Boller noted that Lenahan artwork had been installed. She thanked everyone for their help on this project. Commissioner Grant commented that the exhibit was well received. Commissioner Boller noted that it will hang at the Oasis until April 14th. Commissioner Boller discussed the art show to be held on April 14th. She and Commissioner Greer have met with Signature Rentals, publicity has begun with the electronic posting on the City Website. Work assignments have been made to commissioners and Arts Foundation members. Food still needs to be ordered from Bristol Farms.

Commissioner Trela asked for the last date of entry. Commissioner Boller said there was not an exact date but usually a week or two before the event.

Performing Arts Committee – *None*

Museum Tours and Special Events Committee – Commissioner Goldberg said she would like to see the proceeds from the museum trips refunded back into the CAC's budget. Cynthia Cowell said it's in the works but not yet resolved. Commissioner Grant said the Autry Museum tour was wonderful and well received.

Arts Foundation Liaison Committee – Commissioner Greer noted that Art in Park is scheduled for June 16th. The next Foundation meeting is at Scape Gallery on March 14th at 6pm and affords an opportunity to bring prospective members. The gallery will feature the Brad Miller exhibit.

Art in Public Spaces/Historical Preservation Committee – Commissioner Smith passed around a photo/rendering of the Bridge Over Tree. He explained that OCMA would like this to be the first sculpture on display at the new City Hall. It would be on display for 1 ½ years and then possibly considered for permanent acquisition. The City attorney indicated that this artwork did not meet ADA requirements and rejected this artwork. OCMA Director Dennis Szacas and Marie Marston of the Parks Commission felt strongly that this artwork should be installed. Commissioner Smith noted that there is a precedent for artwork and exhibits at LACMA that does not meet ADA compliance and noted that there is money available from the NBAF for this artwork. Commissioner Boller inquired about the specific intended location of this artwork. Commissioner Smith answered that the exact placement on the new City Hall grounds has yet to be determined but there could be ample space and opportunity for artwork of this size.

Commissioner Goldberg stated that she loves sculpture. "It's organic and environmental."

Mayor Gardner would be willing to consult with the City Attorney to help make headway for acceptance.

Commissioner Grant said that this is a destination piece by a very well known artist and would be a draw.

Publicity Committee – Commissioner Trela obtained the press release for the art exhibit from Jana and has been circulating it among the press for calendaring.

Budget Committee - *None*

City Arts Commission Announcements or matters which members would like placed on a future agenda for discussion, action or report (non-discussion item) - None

Meeting adjourned at 5:50pm

Chair Signature for Approval of Minutes

DRAFT